AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Page 21, line 1, before claim 1, replace the single word heading CLAIMS with the following heading:

~~CLAIMS~~ WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Currently Amended) A modular spring support mounting arrangement ~~(24)~~ for a sash window spring counterbalance arrangement ~~(16)~~ of the type including a plurality of coiled ribbon springs ~~(22)~~, the modular spring support mounting arrangement ~~(24) is~~ being adapted to be fitted within a window jamb channel ~~section (9)~~ and to support and secure the springs ~~(22)~~ within the window jamb channel ~~(9)~~; the modular spring support mounting arrangement ~~(24)~~ comprising:

at least a first spring support mounting element ~~(30b)~~ and a second spring support mounting element ~~(30a)~~, each for supporting a respective coil spring, ~~(22); characterised in that~~

the first spring support mounting element ~~(30b) includes~~ including a pair of wedged shaped cross section projections ~~(34)~~ which extend normally from the spring support mounting element ~~(30b)~~ and are laterally spaced apart and inwardly oppositely directed, and

the second spring support mounting element ~~(30a) includes~~ including an interengagement fitting ~~(36)~~ which engages the pair of wedged shaped cross section projections ~~(34)~~ to in use securely interconnect the first and second spring support mounting elements ~~(30b, 30a)~~ together.

2. (Currently Amended) A modular spring support mounting arrangement ~~(24)~~ as claimed in claim 1 in which the interengagement fitting comprises a dovetail cross section projection ~~(36)~~ which is engaged between the laterally spaced wedged shaped cross section projections ~~(34)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) A modular spring support mounting arrangement as claimed in claim 1 in which the interengagement fitting comprises a narrowed neck portion ~~(30)~~ corresponding to ~~the~~ a lateral spacing ~~(D)~~ between the pair of laterally spaced ~~apart~~ wedge shaped cross section projections ~~(34)~~, and the narrowed neck portion ~~(30)~~ is engaged between the pair of laterally spaced ~~apart~~ wedge shaped cross section projections ~~(34)~~ to in use securely interconnect the first and second spring support mounting elements ~~(30a, 30b)~~ together.

4. (Currently Amended) A modular spring support mounting arrangement ~~(124)~~ as claimed in claim 1 in which the

interengagement fitting comprises a pair of corresponding shoulder supports ~~(160)~~ upon which the respective wedged shaped cross section projections ~~(134)~~ abut and are engaged.

5. (Currently Amended) A modular spring support mounting arrangement ~~(124)~~ as claimed in claim 4 in which each of the shoulder supports ~~(160)~~ comprises a cradle corresponding to, and for, a respective wedged shaped cross section projection ~~(134)~~, and in which each of the shoulder supports ~~(160)~~ further comprises a lip edge ~~(166)~~ which hooks over an upper apex edge ~~(167)~~ of the respective wedged shaped cross section projection ~~(134)~~ fitted to vertically secure the wedge shaped cross section projections ~~(134)~~ vertically within the shoulder support ~~(160)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) A modular spring support mounting arrangement as claimed in claim 1 ~~any preceding claim~~ in which the interengagement fitting and pair of wedged shaped cross section projections ~~(34,134)~~ are adapted to engage and securely interconnect the first and second spring support mounting elements ~~(30a, 30b)~~ together by aligning the interengagement fitting and pair of wedged shaped cross section projections ~~(34,134)~~ and laterally sliding the spring support mounting elements ~~(30a, 30b)~~ relative to each other.

7. (Currently Amended) A modular spring support mounting arrangement ~~(24)~~ as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1 in which the interengagement fitting ~~(36)~~ and pair of wedged shaped cross section projections ~~(34)~~ together define and provide a support surface ~~(42)~~ for at least one of the coiled ribbon springs ~~(22)~~.

8. (Currently Amended) A modular spring support mounting arrangement ~~(24)~~ for a sash window spring counterbalance arrangement ~~(16)~~ of the type including a plurality of coiled ribbon springs ~~(22)~~, the modular spring support mounting arrangement ~~(24)~~ being adapted to be fitted within a window jamb channel ~~section (9)~~ and to support and secure the springs ~~(22)~~ within the window jamb channel ~~(9)~~, the modular spring support mounting arrangement ~~(24)~~ comprising:

at least a first spring support mounting element ~~(30b)~~ and a second spring support mounting element ~~(30a)~~, each for supporting a respective coil spring, ~~(22); characterised in that~~

the first spring support mounting element ~~(30ab includes~~ including a pair of laterally spaced apart projections ~~(34)~~ which extend normally from the spring support mounting element ~~(30b)~~, and

the second spring support mounting element ~~(30a) includes~~ including an interengagement fitting comprising a narrowed neck

portion ~~(38)~~ corresponding to ~~the~~ a lateral spacing ~~(D)~~ between the pair of laterally spaced apart projections ~~(34)~~, the narrowed neck portion ~~(38) is~~ being engaged between the pair of laterally spaced apart projections ~~(34)~~ to in use securely interconnect the first and second spring support mounting elements ~~(30b, 30a)~~ together.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of installing a modular spring support mounting arrangement ~~(24)~~ for a sash window spring counterbalance arrangement ~~(16)~~ within a window jamb channel ~~section (9)~~; the modular spring support mounting arrangement ~~(24)~~ comprising at least a first spring support mounting element ~~(30b)~~ and a second spring support mounting element ~~(30a)~~, the first and second spring support mounting elements ~~(30b, 30a)~~ including a corresponding wedged shaped interlocking arrangement ~~(34, 36)~~ to securely interlock the spring support mounting elements ~~(30a, 30b)~~ together; the method comprising the steps of:

a) inserting the first spring support mounting element ~~(30b)~~ into the window jamb channel ~~(9)~~,

b) laterally aligning the corresponding wedged shaped interlocking arrangement of the first and second spring support mounting elements ~~(30b, 30a)~~, and

c) laterally sliding the second spring support mounting element ~~(30a)~~ relative to the first spring support mounting

element ~~(30b)~~ to engage the wedged shaped interlocking arrangement ~~(34, 36)~~ and securely interlock the spring support mounting elements ~~(30b, 30a)~~ together within the window jamb channel ~~(9)~~.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of installing a modular spring support mounting arrangement ~~(24)~~ as claimed in claim 9 further comprising the step of, ~~in which~~ after inserting the first spring support mounting element ~~(30b)~~ into the window jamb channel, ~~(9)~~ longitudinally sliding the first spring support mounting element ~~(30b) is longitudinally slid~~ within the window jamb channel ~~(9)~~ to align the corresponding wedged shaped interlocking arrangement ~~(34,36)~~ of the first and second spring support mounting elements ~~(30b, 30a)~~.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of installing a modular spring support mounting arrangement ~~(24)~~ as claimed in claim 9 ~~or 10~~ further comprising the step of longitudinally sliding the first and second spring support mounting elements ~~element (30b, 30a)~~ within the window jamb channel ~~(9)~~ to a required mounting position along the length of the window jamb channel ~~(9)~~.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of installing a modular spring support mounting arrangement ~~(24)~~ as claimed in claim 9 ~~any one~~

~~of claims 9 to 11~~ in which the window jamb channel ~~(9)~~ includes an access opening ~~(40)~~ at a position along the length of the channel ~~(9)~~ and further comprising the step of laterally inserting ~~through~~ which the first and second spring support mounting elements ~~(30b, 30a) can be laterally inserted~~ through the opening into the window jamb channel ~~(9)~~.

13. (Canceled)